

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A foam dispensing article ~~is described~~ comprising:

a reservoir for receiving a liquid product, the reservoir having a closed and an open end;

an operating unit for dispensing the foam as an air-liquid mixture at least partially positioned over the reservoir and the open end, the unit comprising:

an air pump comprising an air piston ~~slidably~~ slideably movable within an air cylinder;

a liquid pump concentrically surrounded at least partially by the air pump comprising a liquid cylinder and a piston ~~slidably~~ slideably movable within the liquid cylinder[.];

an operating component positioned at least partially above the liquid and air pumps, the component comprising a foam forming screen device, a product outflow channel downstream and receiving foamed liquid from the screen device, the operating component by hand pressure being downwardly movable toward the reservoir thereby forcing the pistons to pump air and liquid product through the screen device;

a spring system functioning to return both air and liquid pump pistons upward to an unactivated position, the system comprising an inner spring positioned internally concentric to the air piston; and

wherein the improvement is characterized in the spring ~~device~~ system having a return force of greater than 4 pounds (17.8 N), a lubricant being adjacent the air piston to assist movement against a wall of the air cylinder, the liquid product

comprising a surfactant being present in a sufficient amount to at least partially dissolve the lubricant during repeated activation of the operating unit thereby causing the air piston to stick, and the spring system with a return force of greater than 4 pounds overcoming air piston stickage.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The article according to claim 1 wherein the return force ranges from [4] 5 to 7.5 lbs. (~~20.0~~ 22.2 N to 33.4 N).

Claim 3 (original): The article according to claim 1 wherein the spring system further comprises an outer spring within the air cylinder.

Claim 4 (original): The article according to claim 3 wherein the inner spring is at least partially positioned nearer the closed end of the reservoir than is the outer spring.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The article according to claim 3 wherein the outer spring is conically tapered.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The article according to claim 5 wherein the outer spring has a wider diameter at an end distant from the operating component.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): The article according to claim [7] 1 wherein the lubricant is a silicone oil or a hydrocarbon oil.

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Claim 9 (original): The article according to claim 1 further comprising a ball valve at the inlet of the liquid pump.

Claim 10 (canceled)